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Joyner

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(54) **CHOPSTICKS HAVING ELEVATING RADIAL PROTRUSION FOR PREVENTING GERMS AND CONTAMINATION**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) ABSTRACT

A pair of chopsticks is disclosed, the chopsticks consisting of an elongated body having a proximal end to be gripped by a user, and a distal end to be used for seizing a food portion. The chopsticks include a protruding element, such as a disc-shaped collar, extending radially outward from the chopstick elongated body. The protruding element is arranged closer to the eating distal end than to the gripping proximal end. Thus, when the chopsticks are set on a horizontal surface, the chopsticks rest on the proximal end and the protruding element, while the eating distal end remains elevated and separated from the surface, thereby preventing contamination of the eating distal end. The protruding element of each chopstick can be arranged at a different distance from its respective eating distal end, in order to minimize interference between the two protruding elements.

16 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

